

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 22

By Overbey

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend R.T. and Clara Ousley
for 56 years as Sunday School educators.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those Tennessee citizens, who through their extraordinary professional and personal efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, the Ousleys are such commendable people who have the greatest integrity and virtue in all of their chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, as invaluable members of Maryville First United Methodist, Mr. and Mrs. Ousley served with enthusiasm and dedication as Sunday School teachers for fifty-six years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Ousley first embarked upon their work as religious educators in 1956 when they joined First United Methodist Church, shortly after they were married; and

WHEREAS, both R.T. and Clara are lifelong educators, Clara, described as a natural-born teacher, always wanted to work in education; both she and R.T. spent many years teaching in various East Tennessee counties; and

WHEREAS, their level of dedication to Maryville First United Methodist is unwaivering, they carry a near perfect attendance record; a love of teaching is what kept the Ousleys in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, those who are most proud of R.T. and Clara are their two children, Karen Smith and Ted Ousley, and their granddaughter, Samantha; and

WHEREAS, the Ousleys consider their discipleship to be a blessing to themselves, yet their friends, family, and fellow churchmembers consider the Ousley's stewardship to be a blessing to the community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Ousley exemplify the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, the Ousleys truly epitomize the dedicated teachers who are wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and they should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to R.T. and Clara Ousley our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in their future endeavors, as we pay tribute to their illustrious career as spiritual educators.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.